

THE לְפָנָי SHEKEL

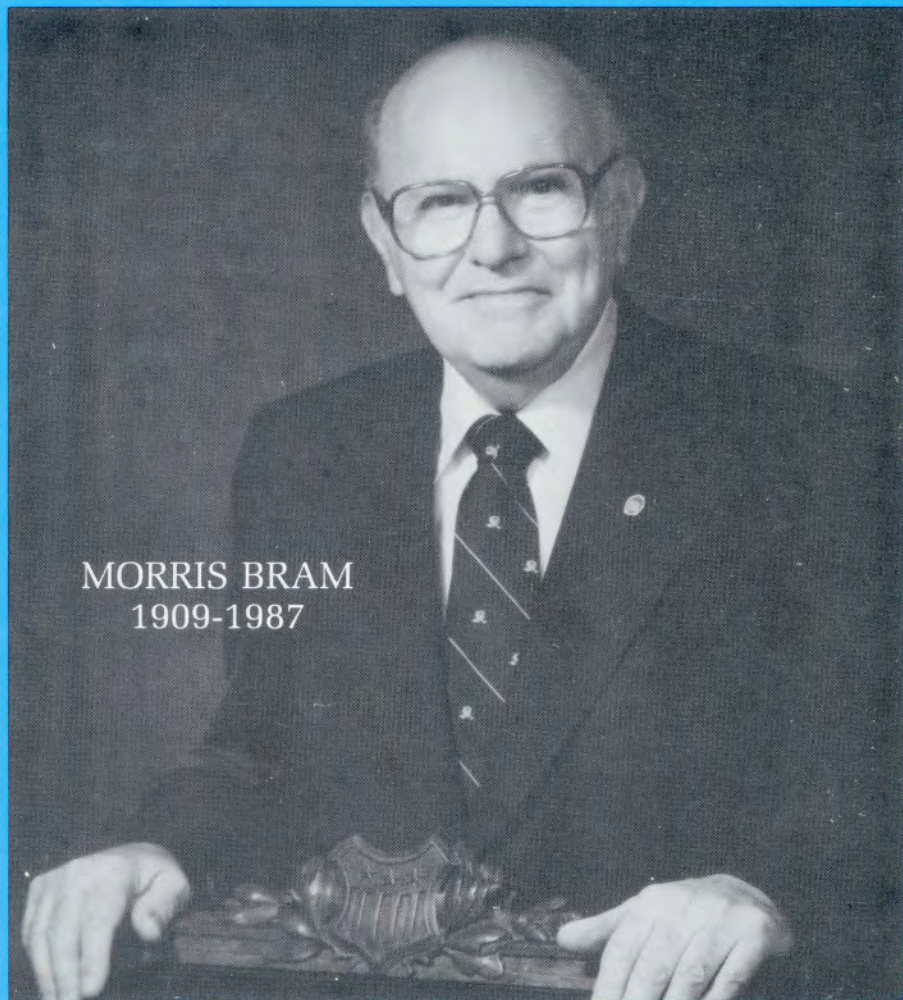


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MORRIS BRAM
1909-1987



OUR ORGANIZATION

AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF A.I.N.A.

The AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION is a cultural and educational organization dedicated to the study and collection of Israel's coinage, past and present, and all aspects of Judaica Numismatica. It is a democratically organized, membership oriented group, chartered as a non-profit association under the laws of the State of New York.

As an educational organization, the primary responsibility is the development of programs, publications, meeting and other activities which will bring news, history, technical, social and related background to the study of numismatics. Membership is open to all men and women of goodwill and to clubs who share the common goals of the Association.

The Association is the publisher of *THE SHEKEL*, a quarterly journal and news magazine prepared for the enlightenment and education of the membership. It neither solicits or accepts advertising, paid or unpaid. Its views are the views and opinions of the writers and the pages and columns are open to all who submit material deemed by the editors to be of interest to the members.

The Association sponsors such major cultural/social/numismatic events as an annual Study Tour of Israel, national and regional conventions and such other activities and enterprises which will benefit the members. Dues are paid annually at \$10.00 per year; life memberships are offered to all at \$150.00. Junior membership (under 18) \$2.50 per year. Your interest and participation will be welcomed by any of the affiliated clubs or as a general member of the Association.

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Editor

George Gilbert, NLG

NUMISMATIC CONSULTANTS IN ISRAEL

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YA'AKOV MESHORER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The President's Message.....	2
Tributes to Morris Bram (1909-1987)	3
Jewish Numismatics at the Crossroads of America by George Gilbert, NLG	7
Palestine Notes Prove Elusive by Jack H. Fisher, NLG	10
How to Collect and Exhibit Israeli Money & Medals (Military) by Sylvia Haffner Magnus	15
Three Who Stood Up and Were Counted by Peter S. Horvitz.....	18
Coins by Henry Bergos	21
Chagall Centennial Inspires Medallion Art Masterpiece.....	25
Medal to First Jew Born in Canada Featured in Spink's Auction.....	26
Coins at Outer Temple Wall in Jerusalem.....	27
A Philadelphia Story by Peter S. Horvitz.....	28
Karl Goldmark by Peter S. Horvitz	30
Medals Collector Seeks Information	32

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear friends,

Morris is a tough act to follow. Happy, cheerful and a good human being, he got people and workers to want to do things for him. At the end, frail, but mostly concerned with the fact that AINA might not make it. Morris, your children have now assumed their responsibilities. We have unified and on July 24th, after the mourning, we dedicated ourselves to preservation of your memory by moving forward.

My friends, in accepting the Presidency, it will not be as a caretaker. I promise you hard work and creative solutions, but I need your help, your dues, and your thoughts about AINA, today and tomorrow.

Morris is, and will be, sorrowfully missed. What we do with his child, this organization, time will tell. I promise you that it will not go downhill in my administration.

Bless your memory, Morris. I promise you we will never forget the little giant who always reminded me of my father.

Rest in Peace,

Stanley

MORRIS BRAM

1909 - 1987

FROM JERUSALEM

WE ARE DEEPLY GRIEVED TO HEAR OF THE PASSING OF AINA PRESIDENT MORRIS BRAM. WE HAVE FOLLOWED FOR TWO DECADES HOW HE WAS THE MOVING SPIRIT OF ALL THE ACTIVITIES OF AINA. HIS DEVOTION AND DEDICATION TO ENHANCE WIDE AWARENESS IN ISRAEL NUMISMATICS WILL REMAIN AS A VIVID MEMORIAL TO HIS UNIQUE PERSONALITY, HIS FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES IN THE BANK OF ISRAEL WILL CHERISH PLEASANT MEMORIES OF MEETINGS WITH HIM.

S. PELED, DIRECTOR
CURRENCY DEPARTMENT
BANK OF ISRAEL,
JERUSALEM

* * *

The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation deeply mourns the passing of a dear friend, Mr. Morris Bram. He will be remembered as the leading figure among the numismatists who helped the Corporation in its first steps in the U.S.

(THE NEW YORK TIMES)

MORRIS BRAM

Morris Bram, president and chairman of the board of the American Israel Numismatic Association, died of a heart attack Tuesday at his home in Tamarac, Fla. He was 78 years old.

Mr. Bram, a native of New York, was one of a group of numismatists who founded the informational, nonprofit organization here in 1967 for collectors of coins, medals, tokens, paper money and other Judaica and Americana. The organization has since become the second-largest numismatic society in the world, with 40 branches, a quarterly magazine and annual tours of Israel.

Mr. Bram is survived by his wife, the former Lena Fleitman; a sister, Molly Krigsmer of Coram, L.I.; a son, Judge Julius Bram of Norwalk, Conn.; a daughter, Gladys Bram of Durham, N.C., and four grandchildren.

Morris was the President of the American Israel Numismatic Association (AINA) which he founded in 1967. Over the years, many clubs with thousands of members became affiliated to the Association. Morris conducted 18 tours to Israel and was involved in the



He loved the youths, the future of AINA.



Morris and Lena Bram were Mr. and Mrs. AINA at ANA functions.



Planting trees in the AINA forest in Israel.



At the AINA Convention Banquets.

regular publishing of *The Shekel*. He was rightfully known as Numismat No.1.

Our heartfelt sympathies are with his dear wife, Lena and children, Gladys and Julius. May his soul rest in peace.

The Corporation plans to plant a grove to perpetuate his name.

E. Shiloni
Director

* * *

ACROSS AMERICA

Morris Bram was a friend not only to everyone who knew him, but to the entire numismatic community. He unquestionably did far more than his share to promote the science of numismatics and the enjoyment of coin collecting. One can scarcely imagine a more involved or more dedicated patron of the hobby, and his passing will be a loss to thousands whose lives he touched and enriched.

As a member of the American Numismatic Association since 1954, he was present and involved at most national gatherings where he became known as the genial promoter of Israel numismatics and coin collecting as a way of life. In 1967 he formed



With Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem during an Israel study tour.

the American Israel Numismatic Association, which far from being a special interest group was actually a vehicle for bringing together collectors from every walk of life. Under his guidance the AINA group grew to be the world's third largest numismatic body. He remained involved with the group until his death.

In addition to his AINA and ANA participation, Morris Bram was a past president of the Long Island Coin Club, the Brooklyn Coin Club, and a Fellow of the American Numismatic Society as well as being a member of many state and local groups. In 1974 his hobby achievements were recognized by Krause Publications when he received their *Numismatic Ambassador Award*.

Morris Bram was in every sense the epitomy of an involved and dedicated numismatist, as well as a true friend who will be forever remembered and loved by all who were fortunate enough to have known him.

American Numismatic Assoc.

* * *

The Board of Directors and the dozens of supporters of AINA who made possible this most unusual numismatic organization express their

collective grief at the loss of the President who lived to see a small idea become a giant international association.

*Stanley Yulish,
For the Board, AINA*

* * *

MORRIS BRAM UNIQUELY COMBINED THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE DREAMER AND THE VISIONARY WITH THOSE OF THE SHAKER AND THE MOVER. THUS, HE TURNED AINA—THE DREAM—INTO ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST NUMISMATIC ORGANIZATIONS, BY DINT OF GREAT EFFORT AND INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP ON HIS PART. WHOEVER WAS TOUCHED BY HIM BECAME A MORE COMPLETE PERSON.

NUMISMATICS WILL MISS HIM. AND SO WILL WE.

*Beth Deisher, Editor
and the COIN WORLD Staff*

* * *

The American Israel Numismatic Association has lost a guiding light and the whole numismatic hobby



Morris addresses AINA members at an annual membership meeting in New York.

has lost an inspiration with the passing of Morris Bram. For more than a quarter of a century, individually and collectively, it was our privilege to associate and interface with this true gentleman of the hobby. This experience found us witnessing, time and again, Morris proving what clear purpose, love of people and enthusiasm can achieve.

Chet, Cliff and the
Krause Publication Staff

* * *

It was a shock to hear of his passing. Morris was devoted to our hobby and will be missed by many. His death took place on my birthday, so, in the future I will always remember Morris on that particular day.

Gene Hessler
Editor, Paper Money

* * *

We at Mandel Security were very taken with the passing of Morris Bram. Morris Bram goes way back with Mandel Security, and in that time a close bond and understanding was established. Morris put forth all his energies in his endeavors and in so doing, never ruffled feathers. He was always a gentleman with patience and understanding. He will be sincerely missed.

JOHN C. MANDEL
President

* * *

FROM CANADA

Canadian numismatists and particularly the members of INS Toronto and AINA, deeply regret the passing of Morris Bram. He was present before a large audience at the founding of our Toronto group in the early 1970s, where he emphasized the distinction between collecting and investment. Most recently in 1983, Morris came to

Toronto to provide advice, encouragement and enthusiasm. We shall miss him. We send sincere regrets to the Officers and members of the Board of Directors.

Albert Rose, Ph.D.
Co-ordinator, INST

* * *

FROM INS CLUBS AND MEMBERS

We will miss our dear friend Morris Bram. When he visited us in California, he was like "one of the family." We could discuss our problems with him and he usually found a solution. We will remember his loving and generous nature and his dedication to Israel and Israel numismatics.

Esther Bromberg, Secretary
INS, San Gabriel Valley

* * *

Please convey our condolences and sympathy to the Morris Bram family. Morris was loved and respected by all who knew him. His dedication to the State of Israel was complete. Morris will be sorely missed by his friends and co-workers.

Joe Samet, President
INS/MI

* * *

WE MOURN THE LOSS OF OUR GOOD FRIEND, MORRIS, A GREAT LEADER, A GIANT AMONG MEN, BELOVED BY ALL THOSE WHO KNEW HIM.

LET US CARRY ON WITH HIS GREAT LOVE A.I.N.A.

Irving Cantor, President
INS of Broward County,
Florida

* * *

There is little we can add to the glowing tributes expressed so eloquently.
cont. on page 14



The Fifth Avenue windows of the Israel Discount Bank, New York.

JEWISH NUMISMATICS AT THE CROSSROADS OF AMERICA

By George Gilbert, NLG

In New York City famed 42 Street crosses Fifth Avenue to form one of the great landmark corners of America. On one corner the vast New York Public Library with its Parthenon-like entry atop a mountain of stone steps and lions stand guard on the largest library north of the Library of Congress.

Diagonally across the street and up 60 paces is one of the most incredibly dramatic doorways in the world. Here is surely the largest permanent display of symbolized Jewish coinage of antiquity in the world—as the entryway to an office building whose street level facilities house the Israel Discount Bank. Coins dating back to the time following the heroism of the Maccabees and up through the Jewish revolts against the Roman occupiers of the Holy Land—a nearly 400-year period—are permanent design features of the entryway.

If each of the coins nearly a foot across could speak, they would tell the story of Jewish history before Cleopatra and Julius Caesar and up to the destruction of Jerusalem in 132 CE. Their bronze-like appearance forms an abstract presentation of Jewish history which while designed as a building facade could just as well be the jacket for a book on Jewish antiquities or the cover of an auction catalogue of some of the greatest numismatic items in history.

The symbolized coins were originally tetradrachms and shekels, each with motifs instantly recognizable to the avid student of early numismatics. To the passerby on a street which is a thoroughfare for 10,000 or 20,000 passerbys a day, the designs are as remote as cuneiforms of the Sumerian or Egyptian empires. A chalice or a lyre may be recognized as much as the pomegranate or



Doorway to 511 Fifth Avenue, a minor office building in midtown Manhattan.

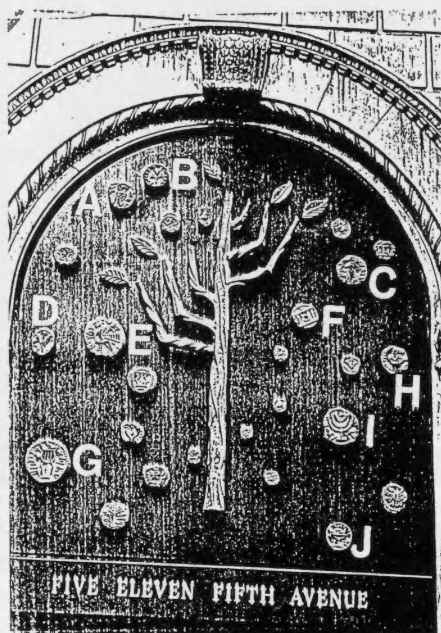
wheat, but this presupposes one stopping to look up six or eight feet to the nearly 50-foot square design area. Few seem to thoughtfully examine the image content of each of the softly edged dinner-plate size discs. Some symbols do not originate on coins, as the *menorah* or a leaf.

No one ever seems to stop at the doorway to ponder on the meaning of the symbology. For all the world, it is authorized graffiti in a city where paint and *Magic Markers* have despoiled above-ground walls of stone, marble, steel and below-ground (subway) cement and tile of public monuments and travel facilities.



Jewish coinage of the pre-Christian era and up through the Second Jewish Revolt of 132 CE. Can you identify more than three of these? See the cover for one. See page 00 for identity of all.

JEWISH NUMISMATICS ON FIFTH AVENUE



The creator of this unusual doorway at the crossroads of America was the *Israel Discount Bank*, a commercial bank originated in a private family in Israel, now operating on a world-scale. This particular branch, the Main Office for America at 511 Fifth Avenue, was completed in 1962.

A few blocks up Fifth Avenue is one of the many branches of *Bank Leumi*. Numismatic artwork in the form of photo murals which must be protected from the weather decorate

A. - OWL: Mesh 1; Persian period, ca. 538BCE.

B. - POMEGRANATES: Mesh. 148; Shekel, ca. 66-70CE.

C. - GRAPES: Mesh. 61; Coin of Archelaus, 4BCE-6CE.

D. - BARLEY: Mesh. 88; Three ears of barley; Agrippa I, 37-44CE.

E. - EAGLE: Ptolemy I, ca. 325 CE.

F. - TEMPLE MOUNT: Mesh. 165; Facade of temple in Jerusalem. First year of Bar Kochba, ca. 132CE.

G. - LYRE: Mesh. 205; Elongated 3-string lyre. Coin of Bar Kochba Revolt, 132-33CE.

H. - WAR GALLERY - Ascalon, 221CE.

I. - MENORAH - Mesh. 37. Antigonus Mattathias, 40-37 BCE.

J. - CHALICE — Mesh. 148; Chalice; Shekel of Israel, ca. 66-70CE.

but this artwork of actual coinage is the major indoor wall behind tellers, not restricted to Jewish coinage. For example, the wellknown owl of the Athenian tetradrachm is a major image on the Bank Leumi walls. In reality this coin is about the size of a U.S. nickel; on the bank wall it is larger than a restaurant serving tray.

The author would be delighted to learn of bank, museum or other centers where coinage of antiquity is a major element of doorway or wall decor. Please write c/o *The Shekel*.

IN HONOR OF MORRIS BRAM
Change your membership in AINA
to LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$150.00.

PALESTINE NOTES PROVE ELUSIVE

By Jack H. Fisher, NLG
(Rights Reserved)

Collectors, dealers and researchers involved in the pursuit of the Palestine Currency Board £10 notes have asked me many questions about my approximately 25 years of research and investigation in this field of numismatics.

Information relative to the £10 notes has been difficult to obtain. Many of the records of the Palestine Currency Board were destroyed during World War II. Nor were records preserved concerning dates of issue, including quantity issued, and notes canceled and destroyed.

Interest is also quite intense in the rare £10 notes with the issue date of Sept. 1, 1927 (1ST SEPTEMBER 1927 on the note). A listing in *The Standard Catalog of World Paper Money* by Albert Pick, fifth edition, increased the interest and questions in the 1927 £10 note. The note is given catalog number Palestine Pick 9 (a); price estimates for the note are \$1,000 in Good condition, \$2,000 in Fine condition and \$3,500 in Extremely Fine condition.

These estimated values are compared to the £10 notes of 1929, 1939 and 1944. In Good condition, estimates in the Pick book range from \$80 (1929), \$70 (1939), \$65 (1944); in Fine condition, estimates range from \$150 (1929), \$135 (1939), \$125 (1944); and the 1939 is estimated at \$700 in Extremely Fine condition.

Birth of Currency Board

The history of the £10 note begins in 1924. A study made by a committee appointed by the High Commissioner of Palestine submitted a report to the authorities in England which proposed the appointment of

a Currency Board. It was proposed that such board would supervise a Palestine currency based on the pound sterling with sterling securities held in London to secure all currency placed in circulation.

The committee suggested a recommended counting unit of small value to the pound sterling to retain the value of a decimal system.

The Palestine Currency Board was then constituted. The members and secretary were appointed by a minute of the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated June 15, 1926. The unit adopted was the Palestine pound, to be equal in value to the British pound sterling, and divided into 1,000 mils.



The Tower of David at the Jaffa Gate was landmark featured on £10 note reverse. See next page.



Obverse and reverse of 10-pound note.

The Board determined that the notes issued be in denominations of 500 mils, £1, £5, £10, £50 and £100. The £10 note depicts on the face the Crusaders Tower at Ramleh. The back of the note depicts the Citadel in Jerusalem. The note measures 191-by-102 millimeters. Colors on the face are brown, green, purple and black; the colors on the back are purple and green.

Official records have been pur-

sued for years with fragments of records being located in the various countries of the Middle East and in England. It was difficult in the early years of research to even verify the exact issue dates. Verification of any issue date was made only by actually seeing a note with that date. The list of £10 notes that were printed and placed into circulation consists of four issue dates: Sept. 1, 1927; Sept. 30, 1929; Sept. 7, 1939; and Jan. 1, 1944.

Questions submitted by individuals interested in the £10 note range from the number of notes printed, number of notes in circulation at specific times during the Palestine Mandate, the number of notes outstanding and the value of such notes in the various grades as collector items.

Notes in circulation

The first question asks about the number of notes in circulation from the first year of issue (1927) to the termination of the board in 1952. This includes data as to £10 notes outstanding at the present time.

It is interesting to note that even though Israel had its own currency after 1948, Palestine Currency Board paper money was still used on a regular basis in Jordan until 1952. In 1952, the quantity of £10 notes in circulation was almost the same as the small amount in circulation in March 31, 1928.

Official government sources state

that the theoretical amount of £10 notes in circulation in 1966 was £36,990 or a theoretical 3,699 £10 notes. This official source says that the dates of issue on the outstanding notes were not known since such records were not kept at the time of redemption and cancellation of such notes.

This official source also says: "It must be emphasized that the figures can have little practical significance by now, as a great deal of the notes shown as theoretically outstanding must have been destroyed from one cause or another."

The subsequent information obtained was that 30,030 Pounds of 10 Pounds notes were outstanding as of approximately 10 years later, which verified that 6,960 Pounds of 10 Pounds notes had been redeemed in that period. This reduced the theoretical number of 10 Pounds notes outstanding to 3,003 notes. This also verified that the Palestine Currency

The amount of £10 notes in circulation are as follows.
Figures are quoted in Palestine pounds:

March 31, 1928	160,000 pounds	March 31, 1941	2,154,980 pounds
March 31, 1929	165,000 pounds	March 31, 1942	2,603,300 pounds
March 31, 1930	225,000 pounds	March 31, 1943	5,687,490 pounds
March 31, 1931	231,880 pounds	March 31, 1944	9,228,930 pounds
March 31, 1932	244,710 pounds	March 31, 1945	13,626,730 pounds
March 31, 1933	310,000 pounds	March 31, 1946	16,021,280 pounds
March 31, 1934	564,270 pounds	March 31, 1947	17,010,660 pounds
March 31, 1935	958,100 pounds	March 31, 1948	20,041,280 pounds
March 31, 1936	1,188,340 pounds	March 31, 1949	8,391,630 pounds
March 31, 1937	962,340 pounds	March 31, 1950	7,364,355 pounds
March 31, 1938	734,340 pounds	March 31, 1951	1,959,930 pounds
March 31, 1939	1,046,470 pounds	March 31, 1952	160,570 pounds
March 31, 1940	1,686,090 pounds		

Board notes were being redeemed on a continuing basis.

Much of the outstanding notes may have been destroyed during fighting in the region in World War II, conflicts after World War II and the destruction of buildings. In addition, Palestine Currency Board notes continued to be redeemed from 1966 for many years. I personally redeemed a few ragged and taped Palestine Currency Board notes in 1967 to learn the redemption procedure. No records were kept during this latter period of redemption concerning dates of issue or denominations. Because of this, I was unable to obtain such information concerning notes redeemed, canceled and destroyed.

Verified notes

My personal collection contains £10 notes of all four verified issue dates: 1927, 1929, 1939 and 1944.

The only 1927 £10 note known to me for almost nine years was the 1927 note in my personal collection with serial number A005516. I learned about three other notes that exist so that as of 1987 there are a total of four notes known to me.

William Barrett of Montreal, Quebec, Canada, confirmed that he obtained and sold one 1927 £10 note with serial number AO11386, but I have not been able to obtain any photograph or photocopy of this note.

Jerry Yahalom provided me with a photocopy of 1927 £10 note with serial A025787 that he said is in his collection.

I was furnished with a photograph of a 1927 £10 note with serial number AO10973 without confirming the present location or verification of present ownership.

The serial numbers on these four 1927 £10 notes verifies that at least 25,787 1927 £10 notes were printed and released into circulation. This information is of great importance in that the official records as of March

31, 1928, states that £160,000 were outstanding.

This converts to 16,000 notes of the £10 denomination. This provides the logical conclusion that 1927 £10 notes continued to be printed and placed into circulation in 1928 after the March 31, 1928, records dates.

The records as of March 31, 1929, indicate that £165,000 of £10 notes were in circulation, or 16,500 £10 notes. The 1929 £10 notes bear the issue date of Sept. 30, 1929. It then appears quite certain that the 1927 £10 notes continued to be printed in 1929 until the commencement of the printing of the 1929 notes.

This small number of £10 notes is to be compared and contrasted with the 20,041,280 pounds of £10 notes in circulation as of March 31, 1948, being a total of 2,004,128 £10 notes. The early first issue 1927 £10 notes were obviously well used and circulated. Ultimately, the 1927 issue was a very small part of the £10 notes issued and in daily circulation.

Obtaining the notes

Ten-pound notes with dates of 1929, 1939 and 1944 are available to interested collectors for their collections. The notes are found usually in ordinary circulated condition. The location of notes in higher grades up to Uncirculated present a real challenge.


The 1927 £10 note is extremely difficult to obtain. Many collectors have pursued this elusive 1927 £10 note for years without being able to even see such a note. The opportunity to acquire such a note in even the lowest grade has not presented itself to but a very few collectors.

I have been involved in the research and collecting of the paper money and coins of the Palestine Currency Board for more than 25 years. The fact that I have only been able to verify the existence of four 1927 £10 notes is indicative of their

scarcity and rarity.

The 1987 market value of such 1927 notes is not known to me in that I have no knowledge of any public sale of one. The value of such a note established between seller and buyer on the present market. I know of no definitive guidelines. It would be interesting for one of the existing 1927 £10 notes to be placed in one of the major auctions to have some de-

termination of market value.

It is entirely possible or probable that one or more additional 1927 £10 notes survived redemption and destruction. Anyone with knowledge of any such 1927 £10 note is requested to transmit such information to Jack H. Fisher, Attorney at Law, Howard Professional Building Suite AA, 750 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, Mich. 49008. 

BRAM HONORED *cont.*

quently in these pages.

We feel we must however, acknowledge our gratitude and appreciation to this talented and caring man who did so much to assist our club in its formative stage and throughout its 11 years existence. Quite simply, Morris Bram was our friend and we'll miss him.

Murray Singer, Sec'y.,
INS of Los Angeles

* * *

The Numismatic Fraternity has lost a GREAT man in the passing of Morris Bram, A.I.N.A., President and Founder. I telephoned him on the afternoon before his death and he seemed in wonderful spirits. I will remember my conversation with him, forever.

He was extremely proud of my Life Membership in A.I.N.A. IN HONOR OF THIS GREAT MAN, PLEASE CONVERT YOUR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP. BECOME A LIFE MEMBER IN A.I.N.A.

Roger P. Bryan,
President FUN

* * *

IT IS WITH GREAT SORROW THAT WE LEARN OF THE DEATH OF MORRIS BRAM, FOUNDER-PRESIDENT-AND-HEART OF A.I.N.A. IT'S ALSO EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE

AINA EXISTING WITHOUT MORRIS AT THE HELM.

ALTHOUGH ALL WE CAN DO AT THIS TIME, MORRIS, IS HOPE THAT YOU "REST IN PEACE", WE CAN ALSO HEAR YOUR LAST MESSAGE—"CARRY ON".

David Schneider
Israel Numismatic Society
of Phoenix

* * *

We wish to express our condolences to the family and friends of Morris Bram. Ten years ago he celebrated with us the establishment of the Tampa Bay chapter of AINA which is still flourishing.

The Members of
Tampa Bay A.I.N.A.

* * *

It was with Morris Bram's cooperation and assistance that the Israel Numismatic Society of New Jersey was organized in May 1972. For many years he was the guest speaker and installation officer. His numismatic knowledge, his humor and his courtesy will long be remembered. We mourn his passing.

Israel Numismatic Society of
New Jersey.
Marla Gottlieb, President

cont. on page 32

HOW TO COLLECT AND EXHIBIT ISRAELI MONEY & MEDALS

by Sylvia Haffner Magnus

CLASSIFICATION — "MILITARY" & EMBLEM OF THE DEFENSE FORCES

All of Israel's military struggles have been commemorated on her coins and banknotes in one form or another. We have selected 33 military events for your selection.

You could for example collect or exhibit only these items which contain the emblem of the Israel Defence Forces: the Sword and Olive Branch. There are only 13 of these.



Jonathan Entebbe — SM-54



Sinai Campaign — 1966



Ghetto Uprisings — 1963

The items are not expensive to acquire to build your collection. The cost range is from \$5.00 to \$20, ex-

cept for the gold of course, and for some of the rare medals. Still, we are talking only about eight items out of 33!



1967 — Victory



1969 — Shalom



1961 — Hero and Sacrifice



Valour — 1958

MILITARY

COMMEMORATIVE COINS

H-4	1961	Maccabean Hero	Hanukka Coin
A-12	1969	Shalom — Anniversary Coin	Sword & Olive Branch
A-26	1983	Year of Valour — Anniversary Coin	Sword & Olive Branch
SI-I	1967	Victory — Special Issue Coin	Sword & Olive Branch
SI-4	1980	Ze'ev Jabotinsky Centenary	Special Issue Coin
G-5	1969	Shalom — Gold Coin	Sword & Olive Branch
G-16	1980	Ze'ev Jabotinsky Centenary	Gold Coin
G-20	1983	Year of Valour — Gold Coin	Sword & Olive Branch

STATE MEDALS

SM-1	1958	Liberation	Judaea Capta
SM-2	1959	Valour	Sword & Olive Branch
SM-24	1963	Ghetto Uprisings	Warsaw Ghetto
SM-25	1963	Tower & Stockade	Western Galilee
SM-31	1964	Immigrant Blockade Runners	Illegal Immigrants
SM-39	1966	Sinai Campaign	Sword & Olive Branch
SM-40	1967	Jewish Legion	First Judeans
SM-54	1976	Entebbe—Operation Jonathan	Sword & Olive Branch
SM-65	1980	Ze'ev Jabotinsky	Betar Movement
SM-79	1984	Resistance to the Nazis	World Assembly
SM-86	1985	Victory over the Nazis	40th Anniversary

COMMISSIONED MEDALS

CM-11	1963	Remembrance	Ministry of Defence
CM-30	1967	Jewish Legion	First Judeans
CM-61	1973	Raphael	25 Years of Service
CM-62	1973	Remembrance Day	Sword & Olive Branch
CM-75	1975	Raphael Prize	Merit Award
CM-106	1973	Shin-Bet	Mossad Honoree
CM-116	1982	Raphael Reirement	Sword & Olive Branch
CM-124	1984	The Revold Medal	40th Anniversary

PRESENTATION MEDALS

PM-1	1957	Sinai Campaign	Sword & Olive Branch
PM-3	1961	TSVA HAGANH L'ISRAEL	Sword & Olive Branch
PM-8	1967	Paratroops Brigade	Lion's Gate—Jerusalem



1983 — Valour

Three Who Stood Up and Were Counted

by Peter S. Horvitz

The list of eminent Christian literary figures who have gone out of their way to express anti-Semitic sentiments (ranging from mild to virulent) is quite impressive. Chaucer, Marlowe, Shakespeare, Cervantes, Goethe, Dostoevski, and H. G. Wells are just a random handful. The list could go on for pages.

It is, therefore, a great pleasure to turn to a smaller list of equally distinguished Christian authors who have expressed sympathy and respect for the Jewish people. Lessing, Coleridge, Scott, Stevenson, Mark Twain, and Ibsen are among notables on this list. An even smaller group of Christian writers not only expressed kind sentiments, but in times of great danger for the Jewish people, stood up to be counted as their friends and supporters, at times at risk to their own safety and well-being. These philo-Semites deserve to be remembered as much for the greatness of their hearts, as for their literary achievements.

The three men in this article are each represented by a numismatic item in my collection. Besides these figures, I would like to point out that the notable French authors Anatole France and Edmond Rostand, like Zola, were enthusiastic supporters of Alfred Dreyfus.

Victor Hugo

Victor Hugo (1802-1885), the great French novelist, poet, dramatist, and painter was deeply concerned with the plight of the Jews. One June 19, 1882, Hugo expressed his reaction to the state-sponsored terrorism directed against the Jews by the Czarist government of Russia.

Hugo wrote, "Christianity tortures Judaism. Thirty towns (twenty-seven, according to others) are at this very moment a prey to plunder and destruction. Events in Russia are terrifying. An immense crime is being committed, or, to put it more correctly, an action is taking place, for this ravaging populace has no longer any consciousness of crime. They are no longer even at that state. In their bestiality they banished their cults. They are possessed of the terrible innocence of tigers. The old centuries of the Albigenses, of the Inquisition, of the Holy Office, of St. Bartholomew Night, of the Dragonades, of the Austria of Maria Theresa, hurl themselves on the nineteenth century in an attempt to smother it. The mutilation of men, the violation of women, the burning of children, that is the suppression of the future. The past does not wish to end. It holds humanity in its clutch. The thread of life is between its ghostly fingers. On the one side the people, on the other side the mob. On the one side light, on the other side darkness. Choose!"¹

The medal honoring Victor Hugo was issued in 1881 to commemorate Hugo's 80th birthday. The medal is struck in bronze and measures 30 millimeters, plus a ring. The obverse shows an almost facing bust of Hugo, wearing suit and tie, only slightly



The 1881 Victor Hugo medal.

towards the left. The inscription gives Hugo's name and the place of his birth, Besançon, and the date, February 26, 1802.

The reverse shows inscriptions around and within a wreath made of bay and oak. Outside the inscription (in English) reads, "Glory to the great French poet. Feb. 27, 1881." The inside inscription reads, "Souvenir of the celebration given in honor of the 80th year of Victor Hugo."

Peter Rosegger



The 1913 Peter Rosegger medal.

Peter Rosegger (1843-1918) was a prominent Austrian novelist and poet. While Rosegger is not well known in English-speaking countries, recent German encyclopedias show that Rosegger is still held in high regard in the German-speaking world. Rosegger was a native of Styria and some of his early works were written in the Styrian dialect. Rosegger's works are noted for the freshness of their style and the beauty of the descriptions of the Alpine landscape, where most of his works are set.

As a fervent Catholic and as the son of Austrian peasants, it might seem natural to assume an anti-Semitic bias on Rosegger's part. Such an assumption was made to Rosegger's face in 1889.

In 1889, Rosegger was editor of a Viennese newspaper, *Heimarten*. In Vienna, in that hotbed of anti-Semitism, Rosegger was confronted by "some violent young anti-Semites." The group urged Rosegger, who had apparently offended them by not tak-

ing an anti-Semitic stand, to do so. Rosegger replied to this deputation in an editorial in the next issue of *Heimgarten*. The editorial was written as an open letter to "Young Anti-Semites in Vienna."

Rosegger asked of these youths which of them was without sin and thus entitled to cast the first stone. "You say, Jews are not Christians! Well, are you? Are you loving and humble? You say, Jews are not Germans! Are you? Are you genuine, honest, industrious, just and thrifty?"²

The open mindness and sense of justice that marked Rosegger in 1889 is also reflected in the inscription that appears on the reverse of the medal honoring him. The reverse inscription can be translated, "For our protection, to offend no one."

This medal was issued in 1913 to mark the author's seventieth birthday. It is struck in bronze and measures 29 millimeters and has an attached ring. The medal is the work of the medalist L. Hujer. On the obverse, it has a portrait of the author facing left and his name. On the reverse, it has a facing knight in armor, leaning on his shield, keeping watch over a group of children in the foreground. The children in the center are reading a book, presumably Rosegger's works, while others are raising up offerings of flowers. The reverse bears the text I mentioned above and, in the exergue, an inscription that can be translated "For the 70th birthday, 1913."

Emile Zola



The Emile Zola 1885-1985 Germain 100 Francs coin.

The story of Emile Zola's defense of Alfred Dreyfus is too famous to be repeated here.

The piece in my collection honoring Zola is a 1985 silver 100 Francs coin issued by the French government. It commemorates the 100th anniversary of the first publication of Zola's great novel *Germinal*, a title derived from the French Revolutionary calendar.

The obverse of this commemorative coin, which corresponds in size and weight to the recent regular issue 100 Francs coins, depicts Zola

facing right. The reverse shows the mine, which is the setting of *Germinal*.

The art of these men will always keep their names alive, but their courage and good deeds also deserve to be remembered. An author's art is not only expressed in his books, but also in his life. ☆

Footnotes

¹Joseph L. Baron (ed.), *Stars and Sand: Jewish Notes by Non-Jewish Notables* (Philadelphia, 1948), pp. 231-232.

²Baron, p. 373.

COUNTERFEIT ALERT



The Judaea Capta series is quite popular with collectors. Unfortunately, it is likewise popular with counterfeiters. The edges of this sestertertius have been worked to conceal any sign of a casting seam, but the bubbles and lack of detail are evident over the entire coin. Many different copies of these coins exist, so be sceptical, especially when buying from a dealer who might perhaps not have the experience to know what he is offering or the integrity to not offer it.

Courtesy:

THOMAS D. WALKER, Box 29188, San Antonio, TX 78229

THE CELATOR

HELP AINA GROW

Volunteer to speak to local
Numismatic groups and others.



COINS

by Henry Bergos

What are these things we use daily? Where do they come from? What is their significance? Simple questions? Maybe not. Let's start with a few definitions.

SHEKEL—originally a weight, came into use by the Jews under Simon Maccabeus, 143-135 B.C.E. Its value was fixed at 4 drachma according to the standard of Tyre.



THE FIRST REVOLT, A.D. 66-70, half shekel, 6.77 gms., year 4 (A.D. 69).

↑ Chalice with eight pearls on rim; above, year 4; around, *half a shekel*, rev., stem with three pomegranates; around, *Jerusalem the Holy* (Meshorer 159 = B.M.C. 19, pl. 30, 8; Reifenberg 144), edge reveals traces of having been in a claw mount, otherwise very fine and of the highest rarity

** Ex Rev. E. Rogers Collection [purchased via Spink & Son, 1916] and Prowe Collection II, lot 2618.



Paper money . . . by agreement a medium of exchange.

MONEY—any material that by agreement serves as a common medium of exchange and measure of value in trade.

COIN—usually a piece of metal that bears an impression conferring legal character (legal tender, though sometimes of a limited nature).



From ancient art to modern coinage.

We can now start to draw some of our own conclusions. First, a coin is not just any piece of metal. Krugerrands, for instance, are not coins; they are medals, due to the fact that they lack "legal character." Second, the money we use has a built-in fluctuation factor. If the commodity—usually gold, silver or copper—that "good coin" vs. the "fiat money" we use—becomes plentiful or scarce, the value of the measure changes. This should not be confused with price changes when stable money is used at a time of supply changes.

A prime example is the 1847-8 discovery of gold in Coloma, Calif. Prior to the discovery, gold was trading at about one ounce of gold to 15 of silver; afterward it was about one to ten. The same thing happened in the Alaska/Northwest Territory, Australia and, of course, South Africa.

Once we have discovered and dug this stuff out of the ground, how do we know what to value it at? First we must purify it and then alloy it for durability. We then stamp a recognizable inscription on a standard size and weight losenge. Prior to Croesus, electrum was used. It had variable percentages of gold and silver. Croesus standardized the coin, using pure gold for his staters and pure silver for his drachmas. They wore poorly, and their weight again varied.

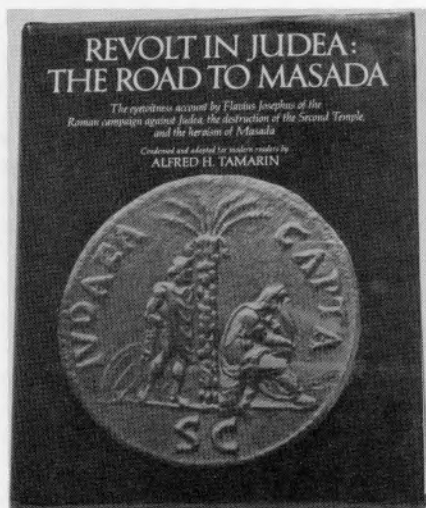
The drachma, by Athenian standard, weighed 4.37 grams. The word drachma is from drax—grasp—and those of Croesus had the heads of a bull and a lion, the symbols of royal power, facing each other. The reverse was a pair of incuse squares with an incuse rectangle between them.

Now, a ticklish question: "legal tender" status. For this, the coin needs to have a known set value. A medal, i.e. a Krugerrand, must be checked against a different scale to determine its value. On the contrary,

a coin is the scale of value. We say that gold is \$308 an ounce; thus a Krugerrand is worth \$308 (not that an ounce of gold is worth a Krugerrand), so the dollar is worth .00325 Krugerrand because the metal changes value (theoretically), not the dollar. Also the government (as a matter of fact, a few governments) will accept dollars for taxes at a fixed rate, while no government will take a medal. Thus, by definition, a shekel is legal tender and better than a Krugerrand! Or, more accurately stated, it is supposed to be a fixed measure of value by which to judge other items that are bought and sold in units/multiples/fractions of another standard—grams/pounds/liters/pieces.

The origin of the shekel is in the *Tanach*. *Bereishis* 23:15-16 says that "Abraham weighed to Ephron the four hundred shekels of silver." This weighing precludes a uniform, easily recognizable form, i.e., a coin. Rather, he had some form of bullion to be measured and filed as needed. *Joshua* 7:21 refers to "a wedge/tongue of gold of fifty; shekels weight." Yet, despite all this, it was 400 years from the time of the first, Jewish coingage, in the 4th century B.C.E. until the first revolt, 66 C.E. and the first shekel (coin). These shekels (see the cover of *The Shekel*) had a chalice with a pearl under the rim on both sides and the date 'aleph' and shekel of Israel on the obverse. The reverse had a stem with three pomegranates surrounded by "*Jerusalem is Holy*." They were struck in Jerusalem, 22 mm in diameter, and weighed 15.1 grams.

With the terrible loss of that war and the decimation (the origin of that word was here) of the Jewish people, this sign of sovereignty was taken away along with the right to coin money. Among the replacement coins was the famed "Judea Capta" series of Vespasian. This coinage



portrays a Roman soldier standing over a chained, crying Jewess sitting next to a palm tree symbol of Jerusalem and Jewry.

Modern Israeli coins starting with the reissue of the shekel after the 1909 year hiatus that ended February 24, 1980. The cluttered obverse has a large seriffed "one" with a

pointed top and mini feet in the 1:00 to 4:30 position. From 2:00 to 6:00 is Israel in Arabic, English, and Hebrew, the three official languages, followed by the date. For example the one I'm using for this has (there is no number over 700), = 400, = 300, = 40, = 3 totalling 5743 or 1983 C.E. — from the 6:00 to the 8:00 position. Slightly over this, emanating from the one, is just below the 3:00 to 9:00 half-way mark. The national seal, The Temple Menorah flanked by two wheat ears over Israel (in Hebrew), is over this imaginary line. The was added in 1982; prior to this date it was assumed.

The reverse has a simple chalice, taken from the ancient coin, with nine pearls forming the top rim and a pearl as part of the base. Above it is "Shekel Israel" (in Hebrew) in two lines that is straight though falling to the left. The third side, (the edge) has five intermittent plain areas with five reeded areas.

EARLY COINAGE INSCRIPTIONS

The *New Interpretation of Hvr ha Yehudim* is an important contribution to collectors, museums and reference libraries interested in the early coinage of the Second Temple period and Hasmonean coins in particular.

The author, Howard B. Brin traces the development of titles on the earliest Greek coins through their use on Hasmonean and Nabatean coins.

He shows the inter-relationship between Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic inscriptions and thus is able to present a convincing argument in the long dispute about the meaning of this unique inscription on Hasmonean coins.

The book is distributed exclusively by Numismatic Fine Arts, P.O. Box 3788, Beverly Hills, California 90212.



Show this copy of **THE SHEKEL**
to a neighbor.
Ask him to join AINA.

CHAGALL CENTENNIAL INSPIRES MEDALLIC ART MASTERPIECE



The Magnes Museum has commissioned an innovative work of medallic art to honor the centennial of the birth of Marc Chagall, one of the giants of Twentieth Century art. The medal, like Chagall's own work, "makes the impossible credible, the fantastic familiar and bathes the world in friendly magic," in the words of the artist's biographer, Lionello Venturi.

Chagall's familiar floating lovers and a delightful zoomorphic violinist have been brilliantly combined with a portrait of the young artist by sculptor Marika Somogyi in silver and gold.

Somogyi's previous works of medallic art for the Magnes Museum are in the collections of The Royal Coin Cabinet of Sweden's National Museum (Wallenberg medal); Israel statesmen Abba Eban (Magnes medal) and Teddy Kolleck (Ben-Gurion medal), Dr. Armand Hammer (Emma Lazarus Award), Statue of Liberty National Monument Museum (Statue of Liberty medal), and the Yale University Music Library (Kurt Weill medal).

Marc Chagall, an innovator whose paintings and engravings on Biblical, religious and folk themes are treasured by museums and private collectors around the world, was born in Vitebsk, Russia on July 7, 1887. He studied in Paris from 1910 to 1913. On the same day that the German armies invaded his Russian hometown in 1941, Chagall landed in New York by invitation of the Museum of Modern Art. He remained in the U.S. until the war was over and then established his home in France.

Chagall designed the sets and costumes of Stravinsky's "Firebird," choreographed by Balanchine. He created the world-famous Chagall windows depicting the "Twelve Tribes" at the Hadassah Hospital outside of Jerusalem and the spectacular stained glass windows for the Metropolitan Opera House at Lincoln Center.

Each Chagall Centennial medallic sculpture weighs about 2½ troy ounces, comes in a protective velvet pouch, and is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity personally signed and numbered by Marika Somogyi. A maximum of 500 Sterling Silver pieces and only 50 14-Karat Gold examples will be produced by the classic lost-wax method. Prices are \$165 and \$1500 respectively. One-third of the cost can be considered as a tax-deductible contribution. Indicate whether you want the sculptural or jewelry (with loop) model when ordering from the non-profit Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell Street, Berkeley, California 94705. Please allow 60 to 90 days for delivery since the Chagall Centennial Commemoratives will be produced and hand-finished by the artist. ☆

Medal to First Jew Born in Canada Featured in Spink's Auction



A gold medal of 1807 of The Beaver Club of Montreal named to David David, the first Jew born in the Province of Quebec, was featured at Spink Coin Auctions' sale held early in 1987. The piece, which is in extremely fine condition is excessively rare. It is one of some 20 examples that have survived.

The Club was originally founded in 1785 and was in existence for 42 years. yet in all that time only about 100 persons were admitted to membership. It was formed as an exclusive dining club for those who had wintered in the interior. Its members were all engaged in the fur trade. From all accounts, its dinners were boisterous occasions.

David David, who was born in Quebec in 1764, made his first journey to the interior in 1807, and was admitted to membership of the Club 10 years later. The medal is engraved with a scene of a beaver gnawing at a tree upon its obverse. From a branch a banner bearing the words INDUS-

TRY & PERSERVERENCE flutters. The words BEAVER CLUB INSTITUTED MONTREAL 1785, appear around the rim.

A typical contemporary river view appears on the reverse—four traders in an Indian canoe approaching rapids. The words "Fortitude in Distress" appear immediately above and the date 1807 below. The name DAVID DAVID is placed on the top rim. The whole is suspended from a gilt suspension rings with a modern blue ribbon attached. It was anticipated to realize around 5,000 pounds.


Members of the David family contributed three-quarters of the initial building fund of Chenneville Street synagogue in 1835. His own charitable acts were later to earn him the affectionate title of "the big Jew against pomp."

He was an established trader in furs and all kinds of general merchandise. In the American wars he

joined the Canadian Militia, receiving his commission as a Lieutenant in the First Battalion of the Montreal Militia. By 1812, he had been promoted to Captain, and in 1813, he took part in the Battle of Chateauguay. In 1818 he became a director of the Bank of Montreal and the following year a life governor of the Montreal General Hospital. A bachelor he died in Montreal, the city he had always been so very much a part, on Nov. 30, 1824.

The medal evokes a great sense of early Canadian history. Papers from

the unpublished Dictionary of Canadian Biography were sold with the lot, together with notes from the Jewish Public Library in Montreal.

The piece was from the collection of the late David Spink, one of whose ancestors in 1666 founded Spink & Son Ltd., which is acknowledged today as the world's oldest and largest coin dealers. Although not large, his collection was carefully formed. Spink's "dealer's eye," combined with his fascination for the curious led him to collect a wide range of coins and medals. 




Coins at Outer Temple Wall in Jerusalem

Coins minted by Roman procurators. Both the coin above, struck by Antonius Felix in 58 A.D. (the fifth year of Emperor Nero's reign) and the coin below, struck by Antonius Felix in 54 A.D. (the 14th year of Claudius), were found at the foundation level of the Sukenik-Mayer wall, quite distant (1600 meters) from the Temple Mount.

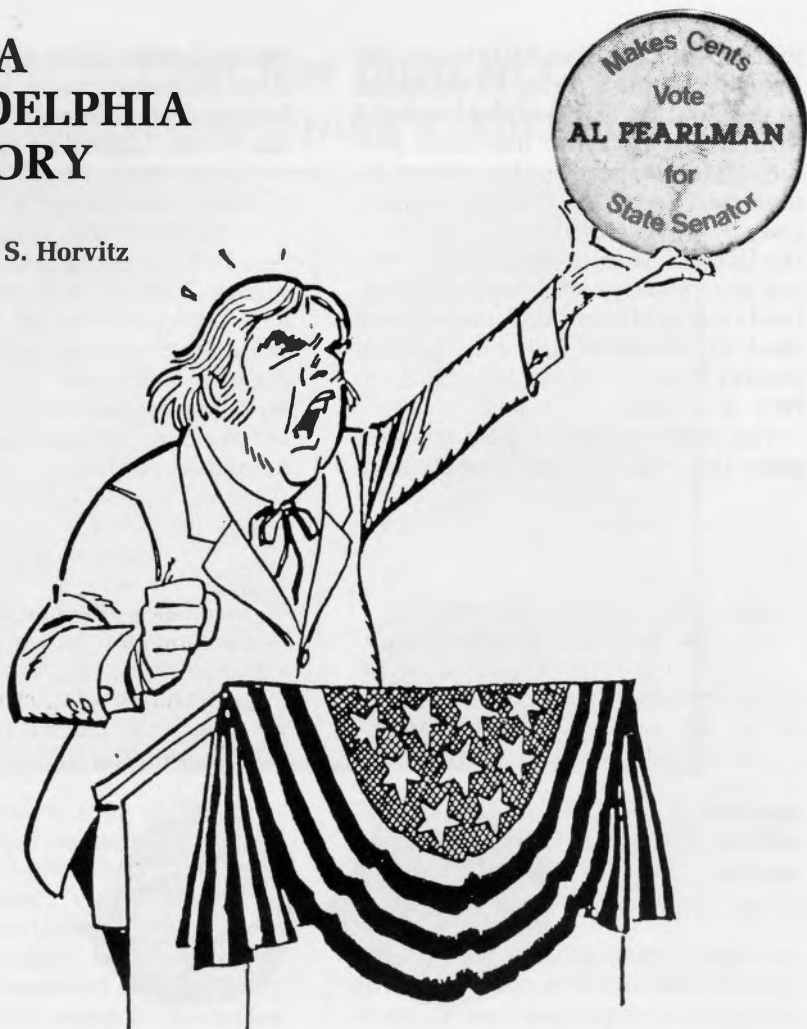
According to E. W. Hamrick, these small coins make large holes in the argument that the Sukenik-Mayer wall is the Third Wall, built by King

Agrippa I. The coins were struck in the 50s, and Agrippa ruled Judea from 41 to 44 A.D.

Although Antonius Felix claimed to seek improved relations with the Jews of Judea, there was in fact great friction between him and the people, and the two sides of his coins present evidence of his two-faced attitude. On one side he stamped such Jewish symbols as palm trees and palm fronds and on the other provocative symbols of Roman rule—crossed shields and spears.—BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY REVIEW 

A PHILADELPHIA STORY

By Peter S. Horvitz



Alvin Irving Pearlman (1930-1984), always called Al or "Big Al," was one of the most prominent Jewish politicians in the history of Philadelphia. He was also one of the most controversial, with some aspects of his career even managing to invade the field of numismatics. This was with his introduction in the political campaign of 1982 of the infamous "Al Pearlman Pennies." For those not familiar with the controversy, I think the story is worth preserving as an interesting footnote to Jewish numismatics.

The story first came to public attention in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* of April 22, 1982. Pearlman was run-

ning for state senator in the Sixth District of Philadelphia. He had an idea for a new form of campaigning. He had circular stickers printed with a campaign message which were attached to the backs of pennies. Pearlman said that he had gotten the idea for the pennies from a restaurant in the Pocono Mountains that advertised on the backs of quarters. Pearlman then had cooperative merchants distribute the pennies as part of people's change.

There were complaints and the matter was brought to the attention of the Treasury Department. The Department ruled that the pennies violated Title 18, Section 475 of the

Federal Code of Criminal Procedure concerning "Imitating Obligations or Securities—Advertisements." This section prohibits a person from impressing or attaching advertisements on currency. Violations carry a maximum fine of \$500.

A Secret Service agent was dispatched to personally hand deliver to Pearlman a letter requesting him to cease and desist voluntarily from the distribution of the labeled one-cent pieces. Pearlman agreed to desist and he also agreed to retrieve whatever coins were in circulation. Pearlman, who had been circulating the coins for about a month, thought that they would be difficult to recover because people would keep them as souvenirs.


The day after the *Inquirer* story appeared, I visited Al Pearlman's campaign headquarters. I explained that my interest was strictly scholarly and that I was not a treasury agent. I wanted just one of the pennies for my collection. I was told to come back the next day. The next day I was told that under no circum-

stances could any more of the pennies be distributed.

Despite Pearlman's fears that it would be difficult to recover the pennies, the Pearlman people seemed to have done a thorough job of cleaning up the coins, for despite years of checking with local coin dealers, flea markets, and so on, I could not find a single example. Finally, in 1986, four years after they were issued, I located one example for my collection.

The labels themselves are printed on white paper and read "Makes Cents Vote AL PEARLMAN for State Senator." The words "AL PEARLMAN" are in blue, all of the rest of the printing is in red.

The label is attached to the reverse of the one-cent piece, leaving the obverse by Victor D. Brenner, the noted Jewish medallist, unobscured. My example utilizes a coin struck at the Philadelphia mint.

Either because of the attention Al Pearlman received because of his pennies, or despite it, he lost the election. 



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Karl Goldmark

by Peter S. Horvitz

Karl Goldmark, an ignored Jewish composer was a master of the romantic mood, and a rich fountain of melody. He has, unfortunately, been rather ignored over the last few decades. Recordings are scarce, concert performances are even rarer. This is a great pity, for Goldmark was a composer of great depth and, in his finest work, an absolute master of his craft. His masterpieces have a purity of form, free of melodramatic effects, setting them apart from much late nineteenth century music.

Goldmark was greatly admired by Mahler and, it can only be hoped, that, as in the case of Mahler, we may soon see a revival of interest in his work. Perhaps the 1980 first complete recording of Goldmark's opera *The Queen of Sheba* (winner of the prestigious *Grand Prix du Disque*) marks the beginning of such a revival.

Karl Goldmark was born in the small town of Keszthely, Hungary on May 18, 1830. His parents were not wealthy and he had over twenty siblings. Goldmark's father was a cantor and the influence of Jewish liturgical music was to color his work throughout his life, though not as undigested impressions, but as ideas completely

integrated into his personal style. Another lifetime influence Goldmark found in his native village was Hungarian peasant dance music.

Goldmark received little formal schooling. His earliest musical instruction was from local musicians in the town of Deutsch-Kreuz, near Ödenburg, where his family had moved in 1834. By the age of twelve, however, his family had recognized his unquestioned talent and in 1842 his father sent him to the Ödenburg music school, and in 1844 to study in Vienna.

In 1848, Goldmark became associated in some fashion with the revolutionary activities of the period. Goldmark's half-brother Joseph had to flee the country; Karl was arrested. Karl was being led out to be shot when at the last moment he was rescued through the intervention of a friend. Karl returned to his family in Deutsch-Kreuz. In 1851, Karl began a career in Vienna as an orchestra violinist, conductor, and music teacher.

Goldmark had begun composing as early as 1842, but his works were first heard in concert only in 1858. It was Goldmark's "String Quartet" (Op. 8 of 1860) which first brought him to public attention. His true fame and popularity in his native

Austria-Hungary may be said to date from the great success of his overture *Sakuntala* (Op. 13 of 1865). Despite his popularity, however, he had great difficulty in getting his first opera *The Queen of Sheba* (1875) produced, even with the intervention of Gustav Mahler. When the opera was finally produced, it was a resounding success and became a standard work in the opera repertoire for the next fifty years.

Today, Goldmark is probably best known for his beautiful symphony *Rustic Wedding* (Op. 26, his first violin concerto; Op. 28, and his overture *In Italy*, Op. 49). These works have managed to maintain their position in the standard repertoire while much other of Goldmark's work was being ignored.

In 1900, on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, a commemorative medal was issued to honor Karl Goldmark. This medal, which is bronze and measures 56 millimeters, is the work of the noted Austrian medalist Anton Scharff. The obverse of the medal shows a shoulder length bust of the composer facing

right and his name. The signature of the artist is under the bust. The reverse shows branches of oak and laurel tied by a ribbon and the inscription (in English) "*For his seventieth birthday, May 18, 1900, from friends and admirers.*"

Karl Goldmark died in Vienna on January 2, 1915.

One of Goldmark's brothers had emigrated to the United States. A son, Rubin Goldmark, was born to this brother in New York on August 15, 1872. Like his famous uncle, Rubin left the land of his birth to study music in Vienna. Among Rubin's teachers of composition was Antonin Dvorak, composer of *From the New World* and other favorites.

Rubin later became a composer and teacher of composition at Juilliard School of Music in New York. Among Rubin Goldmark's many distinguished pupils were George Gershwin and Aaron Copeland, unquestionably the two greatest Jewish composers that America has yet produced (and many critics would think it unnecessary to include the adjective "Jewish.") Rubin Goldmark died in New York on March 6, 1936. ☆



AINA SLIDE SHOWS AVAILABLE TO CLUBS AND MEMBERS

Looking for a program for your AINA club or other numismatic activity? The AINA Educational Slide Library has an extensive list of slide programs which are available without rental charge to AINA clubs and members.

Program chairpersons and other interested parties are welcome to contact AINA Slide Librarian Moe Weinschel, PO Box 277, Rockaway Park, NY 11694 for Order Form and a current list of available shows.

MEDALS COLLECTOR SEEKS INFORMATION

Ben Odesser of Skokie, Illinois, an active collector of medals, tokens and exonumia relating to Jewish numismatics brought a number of unidentified items to the May Convention of AINA.

What should be the most readily identifiable of these items is the Silver Jubilee commemorating medal from the Hebrew Sheltering Home for the Aged. Such a home no longer exists (at least under that name) in New York or Chicago areas.



Obv: SILVER JUBILEE / (old man with beard to left) (tablets with Hebrew inscription that translates as "honor thy father and thy mother") / TO HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER

Rev: HEBREW SHELTERING HOME FOR THE AGED / (star of David) / 1911 - 1936



The Beth Israel Legion issued a token — "Good for 5c in Trade" — but when, why and where has been a confounding problem.



Equally puzzling, the "Shomer Hadas — 5ca" piece. Anyone with information is urged to write to Ben Odesser, 4604 Church Street, Skokie, IL 60076.

BRAM HONORED *cont.*

Dozens of issues of *The Shekel*, hundreds of hours of planning special articles, special subjects, all were the children of Morris Bram and his enthusiasm for AINA.

George Gilbert
Editor, *The Shekel*

To me, Morris Bram and the American Israel Numismatic Association were synonymous. The organization will live because of the love and strength

he put into it, but it can never be the same. I will miss his ready smile and warm greeting at each Convention.

Harold Flartey
Coin Writer, *Daily Record*

* * *

The staff of *The Shekel* regret that space limitations prevent presentation of numerous individual condolence expressions.

COIN WORLD, Wednesday, June 20, 1973

Coin World

THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  THE ENTIRE NUMISMATIC FIELD

A Division of The Sidney Printing & Publishing Co.
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Morris, The Miracle Man

Morris Bram, like the hardy, proverbial Biblical figures, has led the American Israel Numismatic Association through five and a half years as its founding president with all the inspiration, zest, steadfastness and wisdom of those ancient leaders.

With his tact, his ability to smooth out the rough places, his rapport with the Israel government officials, his diplomacy that ought to rate him at least a charge d'affaires portfolio, plus an innate good sense of humor and durability, Morris Bram richly deserves the recent honor accorded him at a convention which proved in deed the words of praise heaped upon him.

It was under his skilled leadership that the Greater New York Coin Convention was held recently — the first convention for AINA. Although some of the coins were 2,500 years old, the convention atmosphere sparkled with "Now," another tribute to its chairman.

Morris Bram was named Life Member No. 1 of AINA, and was re-elected to another two-year term as its president. The citation presented to him at the Saturday night banquet praised him as a friend, leader, true American, sincere patriot of Israel. It recorded his devotion, wise judgement and brilliant achievement.

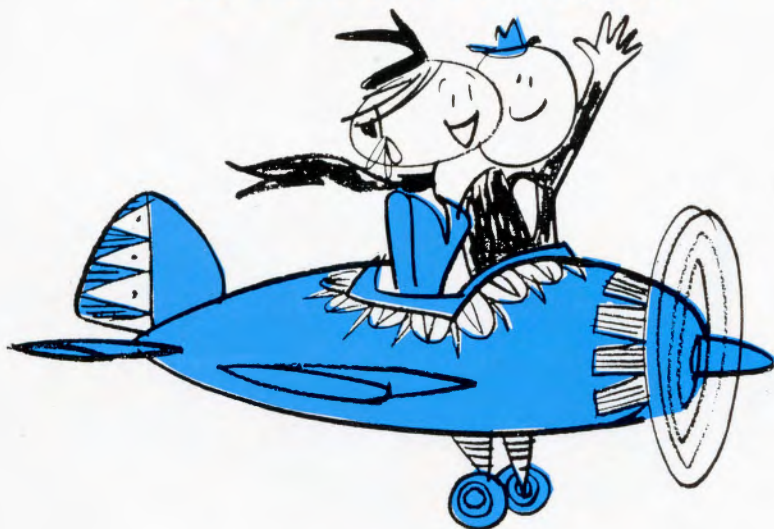
A standing ovation followed the presentation. We are certain Mr. Bram's friends from coast to coast who were not fortunate enough to be present share with enthusiasm his well-deserved honor.

...es are being heard. Never have there been so many letters to our lawmakers about numismatic affairs. Never have they been so needed.

Announcing the
8th Annual
GREATER NEW YORK COIN CONVENTION

will be held simultaneously with
the Convention of

**THE AMERICAN ISRAEL
NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**
SEPTEMBER 11 - 13, 1987



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Thurs., Sept. 10 —
3:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Dealer-to-Dealer Day
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THREE AUCTIONS

STACK'S — 3-DAY AUCTION
SEPT. 9, 10, 11 — 7:00 P.M.

ANCIENTS AUCTION
by Edward Waddell
Sat., SEPT. 12 — 4:00 P.M.

MEDALS EXONUMIA AUCTION
by Collectors Auction Inc.
Dick Johnson — Sun. 1:00 P.M.

SHOW HOURS: THURS., SEPT. 10 — 2:30 P.M. — DEALER REGISTRATION OPENS
FRI., SEPT. 11 — CONVENTION OPENS — 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
SAT., SEPT. 12 — 10:15 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
SUN., SEPT. 13 — 10:15 A.M. — 5:00 P.M.

For further information, contact Moe Weinschel, General Chairman, P.O. Box 25790, Tamarac, Florida 33320 Phone: (305) 726-0333 or (718) 634-2240.